

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

1. Editorially amend the specification.
2. Editorially amend the claims to provide a traditional U.S. transition in all claims.
3. Amend claims 1, 2, 6, and 10 and 26, thereby (among other things) mooted the rejections under 35 USC §112, second paragraph.
4. Supply comment regarding the Election (see section B infra).
5. Respectfully traverse all prior art rejections.
6. Advise the Examiner of the filing on January 22, 2007 of the references requested on page 6 of the office action, and request consideration and citation of those references.
7. Advise the Examiner of the simultaneous filing of a Petition to Extend.

B. COMMENTS CONCERNING THE ELECTION

Page 2 of the office action alleges that the subject matter of claims 11, 12, and 15 appears not to be directed to elected species I. Applicants disagree. Claim 11 properly belongs to elected species I since, for example, as shown in Fig. 1, the curved sides 162, 172, and 182 are aligned along a straight line parallel to a normal to the first slot plane. Reconsideration of withdrawal of at least claim 11 is respectfully requested, e.g., claim 11 should be rejoined.

C. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The amendments to the specification are editorial in nature, many of which involve changing the term “invention” to a term such as “technology” or “example

embodiment” to counter recent tendencies of litigation counsel to unduly overly emphasize or wholesale import into the claims any verbiage proximate the word “invention”.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner’s suggestions regarding elimination of the word “conventional” and have endeavored to delete most if not all occurrences of the word. Applicants do not think that the “Summary” caption title of the PTO guidelines is mandatory, and in further view of the preceding paragraph of remarks have declined to implement the suggested caption change. Further, Applicants decline to omit portions of the summary not corresponding to the elected species.

Applicants respectfully traverse the comments of the office action regarding paragraph [0046], if properly understood. Applicants point out that the embodiment of Fig. 4B indeed has two first ports 491, 492 as well as two second ports 495, 496, in view of the Fig. 4B embodiment having plates 451 and 452 with respective first ports 491, 492 and plates 411, 413 with respective second ports 495, 496. Further in this regard, there are indeed two cover plates 451, 411, which are used together and thus not alternative.

At the end of the first paragraph of page 3, the office action alleges that certain reference numerals need a corresponding description with the indicated figure drawing. Applicants submit that the following reference numerals are explained in the detailed description: 891 (see page 18, line 19); 895 (see page 18, line 21). Further, all the reference numerals appearing in Fig. 8C are described in the last full paragraph of page 18. Reference numeral 1381 is described in the listing on page 30.

The second full paragraph on page 4 of the office action alleges that there is no specification support for the phrase “first curved line is parabolic.” Applicants respectfully traverse (see, e.g., page 5, lines 28 – 29; page 14, line 12).

D. THE DRAWINGS

Applicants respectfully traverse the drawing objections appearing at the bottom of page 3 of the office action.

- Reference numerals 411 and 451 are both correctly employed in Fig. 4B (see the last sentence of the first full paragraph on page 16 of the specification).
- Since the word “conventional” has been removed, no figures need be labeled as “prior art”.
- Reference numerals 970, 974, and 979 of the embodiment of Fig. 9A and Fig. 9B are shown in Fig. 9A rather than Fig. 9B, where they are more conveniently illustrated.

E. PATENTABILITY OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-5, 7-10, 14, 16-19, 22, 23, 25-27 and 52 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 2,767,396 to Cutler. All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 concerns a method of transforming between one or more point type sources and a line source in a transmission line structure, and specifically requires adjusting the curved side of a path controller to get a desired path length between each different wave path of the one or more point sources and corresponding location of the line source. By virtue of limitations of independent claim 1, different line sources can be created depending on the relationship of a first port (such as Applicants’ port 191) or ports with the slot (e.g., with Applicants’ slot 170, see page 14, lines 4-23).

Independent claim 2 has been amended by addition of the following language matter at the end of the claim: “wherein the shape of the slot is arranged to be adjusted and thereby the relationship between the first port and the slot in order to create desired line source”. The amendatory language is supported by the specification, see (for example) page 14, lines 4-23. Independent claim 2 has furthermore been limited to “a

transmission line structure comprising a number of parallel plates". By using a number of parallel plates the structure can be easily coupled and will be very compact.

F. MISCELLANEOUS

In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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